UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

PROVISIONAL

A/46/PV.88
3 August 1992

ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 88th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 31 July 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. SHIHABI (Saudi Arabia)

- Admission of new Members to the United Nations [20]

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 20 (continued)

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

(a) APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION (A/46/938)

(b) LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (A/46/942)

(c) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/46/L.75)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I invite the General Assembly to consider the positive recommendation by the Security Council on the application for admission to membership in the United Nations of the Republic of Georgia.

The Assembly is considering its application for admission forthwith in order to give the State recommended by the Security Council for membership in our Organization the opportunity, if the General Assembly acts favourably on its request, to participate as soon as possible in the work of the United Nations.

If there is no objection, we shall proceed accordingly.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): The Security Council has recommended the admission of the Republic of Georgia in document A/46/942.

The draft resolution concerning the admission of this new Member is contained in document A/46/L.75. In addition to the countries listed in document A/46/L.75, the following countries have become sponsors: Afghanistan, Angola, the Bahamas, Congo, Mali, Oman, Panama, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia and Sri Lanka.

We shall now consider draft resolution A/46/L.75 on the admission of the Republic of Georgia to membership in the United Nations.

(The President)

May I take it that the General Assembly accepts the recommendation of the Security Council and adopts draft resolution A/46/L.75 by acclamation?

Draft resolution A/46/L.75 was adopted (resolution 46/241).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I therefore declare the Republic of Georgia admitted to membership in the United Nations.

I request the Chief of Protocol to escort the delegation of the Republic of Georgia to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

The delegation of the Republic of Georgia was escorted to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): It is my pleasure on this historic occasion to welcome, on behalf of the General Assembly, the Republic of Georgia as a full Member of the United Nations. I am confident that its membership will enrich the United Nations and enhance the universality of the world Organization.

I congratulate the Republic of Georgia and I congratulate the United Nations on the admission of its 179th Member State. We look forward to Georgia's constructive contribution to the work of the United Nations, both in its own interest and in the interest of mankind as a whole.

I wish the Government and people of Georgia peace, prosperity, happiness and every success for the future. I wish to assure Georgia of the full support of the United Nations as it takes its rightful place in the international community as a free, independent, sovereign and peace-loving State.

I call on the representative of Madagascar, Ambassador Rakotondramboa, who will speak on behalf of the Group of African States.

Mr. RAKOTONDRAMBOA (Madagascar) (interpretation from French): On behalf of the Group of African States, over which I have the honour to preside during this month of July, I welcome the Republic of Georgia into the great family of the United Nations. To the Government and people of this new Member State I wish to convey sincere, heartfelt congratulations as well as our wishes for prosperity and happiness.

The admission of a country to membership in the United Nations is always a great and solemn occasion. The political will of States to join the Organization reflects the positive assessment of its activities by people throughout the world, a judgement which is borne out by the fact that no Member, despite the vicissitudes of international life, has so far asked to leave the Organization. All this attests to the universal trust placed in our Organization.

I am sure that, given its prestigious historical past and the dynamism of its people, the Republic of Georgia will make a valuable contribution to the work of the Organization, which at the presest time needs the assistance and active participation of all Members to ensure a solid basis and an effective structure that will enable it to discharge its many delicate missions, particularly with respect to the maintenance of peace and to economic and social development.

I wish to assure the Republic of Georgia of the willingness of the African Group to cooperate with it pursuant to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on Mr. Renagi Lohia, of Papua New Guinea, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Asian States.

Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea): On behalf of the Group of Asian States, it gives me great pleasure to welcome the Republic of Georgia to membership in the United Nations, the family of the people of the world. Family is the basis of and anchor for peoples' social, economic, political, cultural and psychological security. Therefore, it is on the basis of family-hood that we all survive. However, in many parts of the world, especially in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America, we find that the extended family-hood has much to give to individual families and individual members of those families. Also, this United Nations family is a special family, a family that cuts across languages, cultures, Governments and ideologies.

Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to see our brothers and sisters and their Government, the Republic of Georgia, join this special extended family-hood, where Governments and their peoples can lean on one another for security in every possible way. Whether in assisting or in seeking assistance from the Government of the Republic of Georgia, the members of the Group of Asian States will maintain their traditional spirit of cooperation.

Once again, we extend sincere best wishes to the Government and people of the Republic of Georgia. We welcome them most warmly to this great Assembly.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on Mr. Victor H. Batiouk, of Ukraine, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. BATIOUK (Ukraine): As current Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States, I have the great honour and privilege, on behalf of the countries of the Group, to express our best wishes to the Republic of Georgia on its admission to the United Nations. It is a matter of particular satisfaction to welcome to our ranks a new Member State that belongs to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Entry into our Organization of a new Member is an eloquent manifestation of the historic changes that have been taking place in our world in general, and in the CSCE region in particular, for some time now. The admission of Georgia to the United Nations and the presence among us today of its representatives once more testify to the beginning of a new era in which unprecedented prospects are being opened for the United Nations.

At this time of fundamental international change there are strong expectations that the United Nations will fulfil its goals with increasing efficiency, not least in the areas where this truly universal Organization has a unique mandate. Each and every new Member State shares with others to the full extent the responsibility to enhance and strengthen the role of the United Nations as a reliable guardian of international peace and security, as an instrument for economic and social development and cooperation, as a vehicle for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and as an arena for meeting global challenges, such as environmental degradation, human want and mass diseases. With wider, more active and concerted participation, the United Nations now has an opportunity to confront fundamental common challenges seriously and, indeed, to meet the demands and hopes entrusted to the United Nations by peoples all over the world.

(Mr. Batiouk, Ukraine)

The growth of the number of Member States during this session of the General Assembly brings us today closer than ever before to the realization of the great principle of universality of the United Nations. The sincere welcome extended to the new Member of the United Nations is in keeping with the expectations and hopes apparent in our world.

Georgia is a proud Caucasian country with centuries-old culture and rich traditions. However, its independent statehood was reborn in skirmishes and turmoil, which reminded us all of the responsibilities of leaders entrusted by their people with the noble task of ensuring democratic rights and freedoms to all peoples, to all citizens without any exception whatsoever.

(Mr. Batiouk, Ukraine)

All the countries on whose behalf I am honoured to speak today sponsored the resolution adopted by acclamation a few minutes ago by the General Assembly. Thus, they gave expression to our conviction that the Republic of Georgia, the newest State Member of the United Nations, will conscientiously make its contribution to the implementation of the purposes and principles of the Organization as they are enshrined in its Charter. We wish to the Republic of Georgia, its peoples and its representatives to the United Nations much success in our common striving to ensure the survival of civilization, the triumph of justice and the securing of prosperity for living and coming generations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call now on the representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, His Excellency Mr. Kingsley C. Layne, who will speak on behalf of the group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Mr. LAYNE (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines): On behalf of the member countries comprising the Latin American and Caribbean Group, I have the honour to congratulate the Republic of Georgia on its admission to the United Nations and to warmly welcome it to the world body as a free, independent, sovereign, and peace-loving State.

The presence of the representative of Georgia here today and the enhanced membership of our Organization occasioned by the admittance of newly independent States reinforces our belief in and commitment to the principle of universality of representation within the United Nations. We take note with satisfaction of the Republic's determination to uphold and fulfil the ideals and principles of the United Nations Charter, and we are confident that, with its rich cultural heritage, Georgia will contribute significantly to the work of the Organization.

(Mr. Layne, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

In the past few years, we have seen remarkable changes on the international scene. The parameters of international relations have been redefined, but the problems and challenges of development remain acute. In Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, the world witnessed the peaceful rejection of authoritarianism and the embrace in its place of democracy, freedom, and liberty. For the Republic of Georgia, the struggle for independence was eventually won after 70 years of domination by the Soviet Union, and that country now stands ready to take its rightful place in community of sovereign and democratic nations.

On this auspicious occasion, the Latin American and Caribbean Group wishes the Republic of Georgia and its delegation to the General Assembly every success as they prepare to play their part in assisting to solve the global issues of today. They can be assured of our support and sincere desire to cooperate closely with them at the United Nations and in all other international organizations in our common efforts to ensure peace, justice, and prosperity for all the peoples of the world.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call next on Mr. Thomas Hajnoczi, representative of Austria, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States.

Mr. HAJNOCZI (Austria): On behalf of the Group of Western European and other States, I have the honour to extend the warmest welcome to the Republic of Georgia, which has just joined us as the latest member of the United Nations family. With the admission of the Republic of Georgia, all the republics of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have now become Members of this Organization.

(Mr. Hajnoczi, Austria)

Georgia is the seventeenth new Member to join the United Nations in less than 12 months. We welcome this as a further step towards a truly universal Organization embracing all those willing to adhere to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter, which include the principles relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes and the non-use of force.

The tremendous historic changes in our world, from which several new States - among them, the one joining us today and others recently admitted to this Organization - have emerged, have created new opportunities, but also new challenges for the international community and the United Nations. We look forward to the active participation of Georgia, one of the great civilizations in Europe, in our joint endeavours to meet these challenges in the years to come. In bidding it welcome, we assure our full cooperation to the latest Member of the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of the host country.

Mr. HICKS (United States of America): Ambassador Perkins regrets that he is unable to be here this morning on this historic occasion. I will speak on his behalf.

Today, the United Nations admits one of the newest republics in the world. The past 12 months have seen the admission of no fewer than 16 States to United Nations membership. Their membership brings us ever closer to the important goal of a universal Organization through which all States able and willing to carry out the obligations of the Charter may participate in and enrich the community of nations through membership in the United Nations.

On behalf of the host country, I welcome with great pleasure the representative of the newly independent State of Georgia. His presence here today is a demonstration of the appeal of freedom. We look forward to

(Mr. Hicks, United States)

Georgia's contribution to the work of the international community. We hope to cooperate closely with Georgia's representative in the General Assembly and throughout the United Nations.

We especially note that the Republic of Georgia has made a solemn commitment to uphold the purposes and principles of the Charter. These include the principles relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes and non-use of force. We look forward to Georgia's abiding by those commitments. This applies especially, in the view of my Government, to the tragic conflict in South Ossetia. We urge continued and full respect for these principles and all other relevant principles of the Charter and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. In this regard, we are pleased to note that efforts are underway to implement a cease-fire agreement in South Ossetia and to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict. We believe that negotiations, not violence, are to be used by Members of this Organization to settle their differences.

The United States of America takes pride in having co-sponsored the application of the Republic of Georgia. We welcome Georgia's membership in the United Nations.

Mr. CHIKVAIDZE (Georgia) (spoke in Georgian; English text furnished by the delegation): One year ago the Republic of Georgia became an independent State again. If that was its birthday, then today is the christening of Georgia, as it enters the family of nations. I felt it appropriate on this proud day for my nation that the first few words should be pronounced in the ancient and unique Georgian language, the first written monument of which dates back to the fourth century A.D.

(spoke in English)

It is a distinct honour and a particular privilege to come forth before you today as the first-ever representative of the independent Republic of Georgia. It was with immeasurable joy and a feeling of great responsibility that my people and my Government learnt of the Security Council's decision to recommend to the General Assembly that the Republic of Georgia should be accepted into the community of nations.

Most countries get just one chance at civilized development; very seldom do they get a second chance after having failed the first time.

In the 1920s, as a result of armed external aggression, Georgia lost its first chance, and practically no one came to its aid. In retrospect, this is almost understandable: back then there was no such concept as that of world community, and the first international organizations were groping around in search of their role in the international system.

Today, at the close of the century, Georgia has been given a very rare second chance at democratic development. But the efforts of Georgia and the other newly independent nations will ultimately fail if the rest of the world, already blessed with the benefits of democracy, does not lend a helping hand.

We sincerely thank all those countries and organizations that have, over the past few months, contributed much-needed humanitarian assistance to my

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

country. But I'm afraid it's just a drop in the ocean and a stopgap measure at best.

I am talking about the overriding importance of a new kind of cooperation, one that would be dedicated to the creation of a strong and stable economic infrastructure, which in itself would go a long way towards ensuring the irreversibility of democratic changes.

We are not asking for someone to do our work for us, mind you. We are fully aware that success in building democracy in our country depends first and foremost on the Georgian nation itself.

We do not have much of an inheritance to boast of in either the economic or the social sphere. But what we do have is determination to become a stable, prosperous and democratic society that will be a significant factor for world peace.

What can Georgia, a country with centuries-old history and traditions, a country which embraced Christianity at the dawn of the fourth century, offer the world in this regard?

First of all, the possibility of turning Georgia's geopolitical situation into an important positive factor in world affairs. This aspect acquires even more significance because Georgia bridges not only East and West but also North and South, which is becoming the prevalent dichotomy in today's international relations. This is a new political reality which the international community should not overlook.

The official course, set forth before the world by Georgia's current leaders, is a definite asset among our political resources. Its main points are the following:

The Republic of Georgia will be guided by the principles of the Charter

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

of the United Nations and the obligations with respect to the development of democratic institutions and the defence of human rights contained in the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris for a New Europe.

The Republic of Georgia, wishing to contribute to international stability, will become a party to international agreements on disarmament.

The Republic of Georgia does not regard the use or threat of force to be a legitimate tool of policy, and it will, in the event of any regional or other conflict, strive to resolve it exclusively by means of negotiation.

The Republic of Georgia will defend the rights of the national minorities living in its territory, on the basis of agreements within the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) process. This problem is one of the objects of the tireless efforts of the United Nations. Without question, the rights of national minorities should be upheld and defended, but this cannot and must not be done at the expense of the indigenous population, something that is today, unfortunately, fast becoming a distinct tendency.

Responsibility for preserving peace and stability in any region of the world rests equally with all, regardless of whether they possess minority or indigenous status. It is gratifying to know that this problem finds a favourable response within the United Nations. As His Excellency Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali pointed out in his remarks of 1 July,

> "If every ethnic, religious or linguistic group claimed statehood, there would be no limit to fragmentation, and peace, security and economic well-being for all would become ever more difficult to achieve."

These words could not be more timely, since the demands of national minorities and ethnic groups are becoming a dangerous weapon in the hands of the destructive forces of biological nationalism.

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

Most of you have heard about the recent bloody conflict forced by the former system on the Georgians and the Ossetians, a national minority living in Georgian territory. For more than two weeks now a fragile peace has reigned in that area for the first time in three years. There is no more bloodshed, and life is slowly taking on a semblance of normality.

Even more important, the formula we have managed to work out for the settlement could also serve to resolve ethnic and national conflicts in the future. In his address to the people of Georgia on 17 July 1992, Eduard Shevardnadze, Chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Georgia, was hopeful when he said:

> "If the resolution of this conflict goes according to plan, ... it will become a significant contribution of Georgia, together with Russia, to the international practice of resolving ethnic conflicts."

We anticipate that this model will also serve as an appropriate initial contribution upon our entry into the United Nations.

The Republic of Georgia recognizes the inviolability of frontiers, which can be changed only by peaceful means and on the basis of the unanimous consent of the parties involved. In its entire history, which spans over two millennia, Georgia has never laid claim to the lands of other nations, and it has no plans for doing so in the future. We reconfirmed this at the CSCE summit at Helsinki. Simply put, there are no non-Georgian lands in Georgia. Conversely, we will resolutely oppose the aspirations of anyone to any part of Georgian territory.

With the aim of applying these principles to the demands of a new world, first at the Black Sea Conference at Istanbul and then once again at the CSCE summit at Helsinki, we underscored the necessity for modernizing the existing

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

mechanisms for political management and the need for creating new ones.

This basic idea implies putting greater emphasis on the regional cooperation component, which could lead to the creation of such new institutions as Transcaucasian, Black Sea-basin or Central Asian mechanisms.

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

A major new element of renewal would be the introduction into the European process of the concept of the shared responsibility of national minorities for maintaining peace and stability in their countries and regions, and the creation of appropriate institutions for that purpose.

Closely related to this is the problem of conventional-arms proliferation, especially into the hands of militant nationalistic forces.

Our intentions of being active and effective participants in world affairs are confirmed by our actions so far: We support European security through regional systems in accordance with the Helsinki process, we have signed the Istanbul declaration on the economic cooperation of the Black Sea-basin countries, and we have already proposed enhancing this economic cooperation with political and security aspects.

The United Nations, an organization conceived by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt more than 50 years ago, faces new tasks today, among them that of supporting newly independent nations as they embark on the difficult and at times contradictory road towards democracy and protecting them from aggression.

We believe that as a result of Georgia's membership in the United Nations, the possibility of direct aggression against us has greatly diminished. There exists, however, another kind of aggression, one from the inside, directed against nascent democratic institutions and vital economic reforms. This type of aggression is just as dangerous to world peace and stability as the external variety.

As a universal international body, the United Nations is fully justified in taking a stand equally forcefully against all types of aggression, whether perpetrated by an outside force or inspired from within.

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

Georgia's joining the United Nations as its one hundred seventy-ninth Member is the pinnacle of international recognition for our country. This figure, though it has no special significance, indicates that Georgia was late in joining the family of nations. But having done so, we regard this as a great honour, which also brings with it great responsibility, which we are fully aware of and eager to assume.

And perhaps the day will come when the world community can find a role of its own for tiny Georgia and entrust it with a share of responsibility for an aspect of international life, much as it relies on a few small, unique countries to mediate conflicts between nations. Ideally, Georgia too could become such a country.

Maybe my love for my country and my concern for its future have prompted me to speak too emotionally and view too idealistically Georgia's possible future role in the world, but one cannot be blamed for hoping.

We are a warm and open nation. Indeed, the name of our capital city in Georgian means "a warm place". Those of you who have never been in my home town should take my word for it; it is a very warm and hospitable place.

I should like to thank sincerely all those who supported Georgia's desire to become a Member of the United Nations and who have from the outset made it feel like a full-fledged Member of this world body.

I am very grateful for the warm greetings expressed today by the Chairmen of the regional groups and the representative of the host country.

On this day, memorable for my country and for me personally, I cannot help remembering the words of the great Georgian Renaissance poet of the twelfth century, Shota Rustaveli, who in his immortal work, "The Knight in Panther's Skin", wrote more than 800 years ago: "Good hath defeated evil, for the essence of good is eternal".

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

May these words always resonate within the walls of this Organization.

And in conclusion, I hope I may take the liberty of repeating these words, this time in their original language:

(spoke in Georgian)

"Good hath defeated evil, for the essence of good is eternal".

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to announce that the flag of the Republic of Georgia will be raised at a ceremony which will take place in front of the delegates' entrance immediately after the adjournment of this plenary meeting, which will come after the consideration of the next items on the agenda.

AGENDA ITEMS 116 AND 120 (continued)

UNITED NATIONS COMMON SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (PART II) (A/46/808/Add.1)

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION: REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (PART II) (A/46/820/Add.1)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, Mr. Mahmoud Barimani of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to introduce the reports of the Fifth Committee in one intervention.

Mr. BARIMANI (Islamic Republic of Iran), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I have the honour today to present to the General Assembly two reports of the Fifth Committee on two agenda items: documents A/46/808.Add.1 on agenda item 116, "United Nations common system", and A/46/820/Add.1 on agenda item 120, "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II)".

As is stated in paragraph 2 of each report, the Committee considered these two agenda items at its 66th and 67th meetings on 29 and 30 July 1992.

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

At the 67th meeting, the Chairman of the Fifth Committee put before it the text of the two draft resolutions on the United Nations common system and on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission respectively.

The Committee adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.27 on the United Nations common system, as orally amended. I should like to draw your attention in particular to paragraphs 1, 10, 11 and 12 of the draft resolution. In paragraph 1, the General Assembly would strongly deplore the decision of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to make payment of the special post allowance to headquarters Professional staff in the circumstances described in paragraphs 33 to 35 of the report of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC).

In paragraph 10, the General Assembly would request ICSC, at its current session, to propose measures to enforce and enhance respect for and adherence by all organizations of the United Nations common system to the common system of salaries, allowances and conditions of service, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session together with its consideration on improving the responsiveness of the common system to the concerns and needs of the different organizations.

Furthermore, the General Assembly would call upon the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, to review and, where appropriate, strengthen the applicable sections of the relationship agreements between the United Nations and member organizations of the common system, in particular article 8 of the relationship agreement between the United Nations and ITU, in order to enhance comparability and further adherence to the goals and objectives of the common system.

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

The final operative paragraph requests ITU to ensure that any consultative meeting convened pursuant to Administrative Council resolution R 1024 proceeds with the clear awareness that the United Nations General Assembly is the authority for determining conformity with the common system.

In paragraph 7 of the Report of the Fifth Committee, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution.

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

The Fifth Committee also adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.26, on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II). The draft resolution on UNAVEM II follows a format similar to that of previous resolutions on the financing of United Nations peace-keeping operations. I shall therefore highlight only certain aspects, which are germane to this specific situation.

In paragraph 3 the General Assembly would decide to appropriate to the special account an additional amount of $15 million gross, or $14 million net, inclusive of the amount of $2.9 million authorized with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 46/187 of 20 December 1991, for the operation of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission for the period from 1 January to 31 October 1992.

In paragraph 7 the General Assembly would decide that the vehicles transferred to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission from the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara should be at no cost to the Verification Mission.

The Committee agreed, on the proposal of the Chairman, that when the draft resolution was introduced to the General Assembly, the Rapporteur would propose that Georgia's name should be added to the list of Member States whose assessments are mentioned in paragraph 6 of the draft resolution.

In paragraph 6 of its report (A/820/Add.1) the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of this draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General

(The President)

Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

Let me remind members that by paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

"When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee". (decision 34/401, para. 7)

Let me remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we shall proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee.

The Assembly will first consider part II of the report of the Fifth Committee (A/46/808/Add.1) on agenda item 116, entitled "United Nations common system". The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of that report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote.

(The President)

May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 46/191 B).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 116.

The Assembly will now consider part II of the report of the Fifth Committee (A/46/820/Add.1) on agenda item 120, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission". The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended in paragraph 6 of that report of the Fifth Committee.

The Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee has made the proposal to add the name of Georgia to paragraph 6 of the draft resolution.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft resolution, as orally revised by the Rapporteur?

The draft resolution, as orally revised by the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, was adopted (resolution 46/195 B).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call now on the representative of Angola, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. VAN DUNEM (Angola): I should like to take this opportunity to renew the sincerest appreciation of the Government of the People's Republic of Angola to the international community, and particularly to the United Nations, for its contribution to the establishment of peace and national reconciliation in our country. Our thanks go also to the countries that have individually given us their generous support. We should like to assure everyone that the Angolan people will never forget this proof of friendship and cooperation.

(Mr. Van Dunem, Angola)

The resolution the General Assembly has just adopted by consensus will give us further support. It constitutes a step towards the attainment of the complex building of peace and national reconciliation and, as pointed out by the Secretary-General in his report,

> "only a relatively small additional effort is needed to help ensure that the Angolan operation is a success for Angola and for the United Nations. Moreover, it is not financial resources, per se, that are required, so much as innovative and rapid provision of practical assistance on a loan and in-kind basis." (S/24145, para. 42)

Despite some small incidents, we have achieved notable progress, which will enable us to organize elections in September under the supervision of the United Nations. The Government of the People's Republic of Angola is fully aware of its responsibility to undertake the peace process; our part in the process will be fully implemented.

Once again, we express our sincere thanks and reiterate our hope that the international community, and particularly the United Nations, will stand side by side with our people in building peace and national reconstruction.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): The Assembly has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of agenda item 120.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.